

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 583

By Finney

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Harold “Hal” Crocker for being named the sixty-eighth Jackson Man of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly pause in its deliberations to recognize the achievements of those most-deserving citizens; and

WHEREAS, one such person is Harold “Hal” Crocker, who has been named the 2013 Man of the Year by the Jackson Exchange Club for his work in revitalizing the Jackson downtown area; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crocker is a native Jacksonian who grew up working in his father’s construction business, and attended the city’s public schools, graduating from Jackson High in 1970; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crocker has served in multiple capacities with Crocker Construction Company, including laborer, heavy equipment operator, draftsman, job superintendent, and project manager, before becoming CEO and President after his father, Morris Crocker, retired; and

WHEREAS, Crocker Construction Company has become a cornerstone business in the West Tennessee business community under the direction and leadership of Mr. Crocker; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crocker’s business paradigm of making decisions based on the best value rather than the cheapest price has made Crocker Construction and his other company, HCB Development, incredibly successful; and

WHEREAS, Hal Crocker and Crocker Construction Company were instrumental in rebuilding and refurbishing damaged property after the 2003 tornado that devastated the downtown and East Jackson areas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crocker also headed the project that restored the New Southern Hotel after the 2008 tornado; and

WHEREAS, other important projects have been the East Jackson Church of Christ, the New St. Luke's Missionary Baptist Church, the Love and Truth Church, and the renovation of the Federal Courthouse in Jackson; and

WHEREAS; along with his partner, Henry Turley of Memphis, Hal Crocker has formed Healthy Community LLC, a joint venture that has been chosen by the City of Jackson and Community Redevelopment Agency as the master developer in the city's center city redevelopment efforts, changing an area that had no hope and breathing new life into it with a wellness center, retail developments, and housing, and turning it into the symbol of life in the heart of Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crocker worked tirelessly to bring the University of Memphis to the Lambuth University campus after the latter institution had to close its doors; and

WHEREAS, he currently serves on the Downtown Dogs Group committee and the amphitheater committee to help program and raise funding for the new Farmer's Market Amphitheater and to open a dog park adjacent to the Farmer's Market; and

WHEREAS, he is a past President of the Jackson Downtown Development Corporation and remains a board member, and he has served on the board of directors for several local organizations including the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, the Discovery Museum of West Tennessee, Habitat for Humanity, Mayor's Tornado Taskforce, Safe Neighborhoods Taskforce, and the Boys and Girls Club of Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Hal Crocker received the Tennessee Preservation Trust Award for the restoration of the New Southern Hotel and received the award again for the restoration of The Neely House in 2007 and has been awarded the "Ronald M. Cunningham Award for Community Service"; and

WHEREAS, he has had the loving support of his wife, Christi Crocker, for thirty-seven years, whom he met on a blind date arranged by his sister, the joy of being a father to his

daughter, Abbie and son-in-law Josh, and the pride of being a grandfather to his grandchildren, Edie, William, and Garland; and

WHEREAS, a man beloved by his community, Hal Crocker's vision and determination have earned him the respect and admiration of his many friends and neighbors who extoll his character, integrity, honesty, and work ethic; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Crocker's dedication to his work and community embodies the spirit of the industrious Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Harold "Hal" Crocker on being named the Jackson Exchange Club's sixty-eighth Jackson Man of the Year for 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.